

## Message Text

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63

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CU-02 AID-05 NSF-01 LOC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2250

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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STATE FOR OES/APT/BMP, CU/NEA

DEPARTMENT PASS NSF, COMM/NDB/NTIS, HEW/NLM, AID, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS  
(FOR AGENBROAD)

BELGRADE FOR SCIATT (HOLD FOR PRONKO)

TUNIS HOLD FOR BURCHINALL, (NSF)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USEGJC, TGEN

SUBJECT: JWGTRD SYMPOSIUM/WORKSHOP ON S AND T INFO. REPORT

### 1. SUMMARY

THE US-EGYPTIAN SYMPOSIUM/WORKSHOP ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL  
INFORMATION (STI) WAS HELD AT CAIRO UNIVERSITY APRIL 5-16, 1976.

SPECIFIC CONCLUSIONS REACHED WERE:

(A) EGYPTIAN NAT. PROGRAM FOR STI IS NEEDED AS A KEY COMPONENT

I SOCI-ECONOMIC EVOLUTION

(B) EXPERT ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED TO ASSIST EGYPTIAN DEVELOPMENT

OF STI RESOURCES, SERVICES AND MANPOWER.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT EGYPT ESTABLISH A STANDING FOCAL  
BODY FOR STI PROCEED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OR ENHANCE SEVERAL SECTORAL  
STI SYSTEMS AND DEVELOP A NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR RELATED MANPOWER  
EDUCATIONS AND TRAINING. THE US AND EGYPT WILL ALSO DEVELOP

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APPROPRIATE JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS. WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

MET WITH OFFICIALS OF VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS INCLUDING ACADEMY  
PRES ABDEL MONEIM ABUL AZM AND CAIRO UNIV. PRES. ABU TALEB.  
US GROUP LEADER PRONKO, NSF, AND SCIATT, ALSO MET WITH  
MINISTER OF EDUCATION/HIGHER EDUCATION MUSTAFA HELMI. FULL  
MEETING REPORT WILL BE FORWARDED BY AIGRAM. END SUMMARY.

2. MEETING WAS DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS, SYMPOSIUM  
AND WORKSHOP HELD BETWEEN OPENING AND CLOSING PLENARY  
MEETINGS. SUMPOSIUM DISCUSSED FOLLOWING TOPICS:

A. PLANNING FOR INFO SVCS.

B. INFO SYSTEMS FOR INDUSTRY AND SPECIALIZED APPLICATIONS

C. LIBRARIES AND COMPUTER BASED INFO SVCS.

D. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

DURING SUMPOSIUM ELEVEN EGYPTIAN AND ELEVEN U.S.  
PAPERS WERE SUMMARIZED BY AUTHORS. WORKSHOP DIVIDED  
INTO TWO PANELS, FIRST ON PLANNING AND SECOND ON  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING. IN ADDITION THERE WERE A NUMBER OF  
SITE VISITS, INCLUDING HELWAN IRON AND STEEL COMPLEX MICRO-  
FILM CENTER (AL AHAM), PETROLEUM RESEARCH INSTITUTE, NIDOC.

3. MEETING REPORT CONCLUDED THAT STI IS KEY ELEMENT  
IN EGYPT'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (HENCE GROWTH). A  
NATIONAL PROGRAM TO GUIDE AND ORGANIZE THE MEETING OF STI AS  
A "NATIONAL RESOURCE" (RESOURCE OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE) AND  
TO ENHANCE AND FURTHER ITS USE IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR  
DECISION MAKING IS NEEDED. BOTH POLICY GUIDANCE AND INTER-  
CONNECTED INFRASTRUCTURE ARE REQUIRED. IT WAS FURTHER  
CONCLUDED THAT OUTSIDE EXPERT ASSISTANCE WOULD BE NEEDED  
AT VARIOUS LEVELS AND THAT U.S. COLLABORATION (THROUGH  
CONSULTANT AND ADVISORY SERVICES) TO ASSIST EGYPTIAN FORMULATION  
AND GRADUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF A NATIONAL STI PROGRAM WAS  
INDICATED.

4. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS WERE:

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A. EST. A STANDING NAT. FOCAL BODY AND AGENDA FOR A  
NAT. STI PROGRAM IN EGYPT  
RESPONSIBILITIES TO INCLUDE (ON NAT. BASIS)  
FORMULATION OF INFO POLICY, ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS AND  
RESOURCES, ELABORATION OF DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES  
AND COORDINATION OF NATIONAL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION.  
STDG. BODY SHOULD BE AT APPROPRIATE NAT. DECISION  
MAKING LEVEL, AND INCLUDE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE

SECTORS AND USER ORGANIZATIONS, AND SHOULD HAVE OWN BUDGET.

B. DEVELOP OR ENHANCE SECTORAL STI SYSTEMS CONSISTENT WITH GOE FIVE YEAR PLAN, DEVELOPMENT OF COORDINATED STI PROJECT IN FOLLOWING SECTORS IS RECOMMENDED:

- (A) PETROLEUM/PETROCHEMICALS EXPLORATION/PRODUCTION
- (B) HEALTH RELATED SCIENCES
- (C) AGRICULTURE/IRRIGATION/FISHERIES
- (D) TEXTILE ENGINEERING
- (E) ENERGY RELATED ENGINEERING AREAS (INCLUDES NUCLEAR)
- (F) PHYSICAL SCIENCES

C. DEVELOP NAT. PROGRAM FOR STI EDUCATION AND TRAINING. TO BE WITHIN NAT. STI PROGRAM. LIBRARY AND INFO SYSTEMS SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AS INDEPENDENT ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE TAUGHT AS DISTINCT PROGRAMS AT UNDERGRAD AND GRAD LEVELS. GRAD STUDENTS IN STI TO BE ACCEPTED FROM DIFFERENT UNDERGRAD SPECIALITIES AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF STI PROFESSIONALS ENCOURAGED. ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA SHOULD INCLUDE: MANPOWER NEED ANALYSIS, ACADEMIC PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT (INCLUDING COOPERATIVE DEGREE PROGRAMS WITH U.S. UNIVERSITIES) AND IN-SERVICE TRNG.

D. CONDUCT JOINT RESEARCH IN PROBLEM AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST  
EARLY ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE HANDLING AND USE OF ARABIC (CHARACTER) DATA AND INFO; MACHINE TRANSLATION; COST-EFFECTIVENESS STUDIES; IMPROVEMENT OF STI METHODOLOGY (STATE OF ART SEARCHES).  
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E. EST. US-EGYPTIAN JOINT GROUP ON STI  
THREE PERSONS TO BE NAMED BY EACH COUNTRY, TO SERVICE AS "STEERING COMMITTEE" CHARGED WITH ASSISTING IN DEVELOPING SPECIFIC STEPS TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS, IDENTIFY CONSULTANTS, ADVISE ON SPECIFIC PROPOSALS, MONITOR PROGRESS. GROUP TO MEET ASAP, PREFERABLY JULY 1976 IN EGYPT.

5. IN CONNECTION WITH EACH RECOMMENDATION POSSIBLE FORMS OF U.S. COOPERATION OR PARTICIPATION WERE DEFINED; FOR THE MOST PART ADVISORY OR CONSULTANT SERVICES, WITH JOINT RESEARCH POSSIBLE IN SOME AREAS. SUGGESTION, BY US ACADEMIC REPRESENTATIVES, OF COOPERATIVE DEGREE PROGRAMS BETWEEN US AND EGYPTIAN UNIVERSITIES WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY

RECEIVED BY EGYPTIANS. HOWEVER, MECHANIS AND FUNDING WERE NOT DISCUSSED. CONCEPT IS FOR SELECTED EGYPTIAN STUDENTS, TO PURSUE SOME COURSES AT US UNIVERSITIES. THERE WAS NO SPECIFIC COMMITMENT BY THE US UNIVERSITIES REPRESENTED IN US GROUP (CASE/WESTERN RESERVE, CALIF AT BERKELY, CATHOLIC, GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY) BUT WE ARE SURE EGYPTIANS WILL WANT TO SEE SOME FOLLOW UP ON THIS ONE.

6. COMMENT - MEETING AFTER SOME EARLY VAGUENESS, COALESCED AND MOVED TO PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSION OF NEEDS. OPENING SESSIONS WERE HAMPERED BY COMBINATION OF SOMEWHAT SUPERFICIAL PREPARATION BY EGYPTIANS AND LACK OF APPRECIATION OF EGYPTIAN BUREAUCRATIC COMPARTMENTALIZATION AND CONFUSED LINES OF AUTHORITY IN THIS AREA BY MOST US PARTICIPANTS. EGYPTIAN AGENCIES CAME TO MEETING EACH INITIALLY HOPING TO GET SOMETHING DIRECTLY FOR ITSELF. IN THE END THERE WAS AGREEMENT ON OVERALL DIRECTION AND NEED FOR COORDINATED INTEGRATED INTERAGENCY PLANNING BY GOE TO SUPPORT STI NEEDS FOR FIVE YEAR PLAN AND OTHER ENUNCIATED GOALS. NEXT STEP, I.E. USING JULY MEETING OF JOINT GROUP (PARA 4 E) TO FORMULATE SPECIFIC PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND RELATE THESE TO RESOURCES IN KEY-LEAD ROLE FOR GOE IN PREPARATIONS, SEEMS TO BE WITH CARIO UNIV. DUE IN LARGE PART TO THE ENERGY OF V.P. DR. IBRAHIM BADRAN, WHO WILL WORK WITH ACADEMY, NIDOC AND AL AHRAM. EMB. WILL ATTEMPT TO WORK WITH GOE IN DEVELOPING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGENDA AND PROPOSAL OUTLINES FOR DISCUSSION FOR MEETING (THESE WERE LARGELY LACKING AT BEGINNING OF THIS MEETING).

MINISTER OF EDUCATION HELMI PROMISED HIS SUPPORT AND SAID HE WOULD SPEAK TO HIS MINISTERIAL COLLEAGUES, EL GEHEILLY, AND ABOU EL AZM ABOUT COORDINATION. IN THIS, LIKE OTHER JWGT RD ACTIVITIES, THERE IS STILL NO AUTHORITATIVE INSTITUTIONAL FOCUS FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, IN THE GOE. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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